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LETTER DATED 19 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, during the period from 9 to 15 February 1993, United States aircraft continued to violate Iraqi airspace for the purpose of surveillance and provocation and to drop heat flares on some areas, as follows.

9 February 1993

(a) Northern region: 30 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-8,000 m, centred on Amadiyah, Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul and Irbil.

(b) Southern region: 58 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred over Busayyah, Jalibah, Samawah, Khidr, Nasiriyah, Artawi, Salman, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah and Basra.

10 February 1993

(a) Northern region: No air activity was recorded in the area on this day.

(b) Southern region: 46 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Salman, Lisq and Busayyah.

11 February 1993

(a) Northern region: 24 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-8,000 m, centred on the Dukan dam, Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 74 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-10,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Basra, Samawah, Amarah, Jalibah and Busayyah.

- At 1135 hours on 11 February 1993, a United States TR-1 aircraft engaged in hostile reconnaissance in the southern region and departed at 1359 hours on the same day, flying in the direction of Saudi Arabian airspace (Hafr al-Batin area).

12 February 1993

(a) Southern region: 24 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Qal'at Salih, Samawah, Khidr, Busayyah, Artawi, Salman, Amarah and Ushbayjah.

13 February 1993

(a) Northern region: 36 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,500-9,000 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Dukan and Amadiyah.

- At 1720 hours on 13 February 1993, a hostile aircraft dropped two heat flares on Mosul.

(b) Southern region: 85 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-10,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Salman, Busayyah and Qurnah.

14 February 1993

(a) Northern region: 30 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-10,000 m, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah and Irbil.

(b) Southern region: 73 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000 to 8,500 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Salman, Basra, southern Diwaniyah, Qal'at Salih and Busayyah.

15 February 1993

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-8,000 m, centred on Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Mosul and Tall Afar.

(b) Southern region: 74 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah and Busayyah.

16 February 1993

(a) Northern region: No air activity was recorded in the area on this day.

(b) Northern region: 67 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah, Ushbayjah and Busayyah.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative